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Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 06522 250815Z

10
ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 A-01 SS-07 NSC-06 /024 W
---------- 059510
R 250735Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2317
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SEOUL 6522

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OREP (SIKES, ROBERT)
SUBJECT: CODEL SIKES VISIT TO KOREA

REF: (A) SEOUL 6241 (DTG 140843Z AUG 75)
(B) SEOUL 6368 (DTG 200328Z AUG 75)

1. CONGRESSMAN ROBERT SIKES VISITED SEOUL FROM AUGUST 17 THROUGH AUGUST 19, ACCOMPANIED BY STATE DEPARTMENT AND USAF OFFICERS BERNARD ENGEL AND MICHAEL QUINLAN.

2. ITINERARY ON AUGUST 18 INCLUDED EMBASSY COUNTRY TEAM AND UN COMMAND BRIEFINGS WITH CALLS ON PRESIDENT PAK AND SPEAKER OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CHONG IL-KWON (REF B). LATTER HOSTED LUNCHEON FOR CODEL. HANYANG UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES AWARDED CONGRESSMAN SIKES WITH HONORARY DOCTORATE DEGREE.

3. BEFORE DEPARTING FOR BANGKOK ON AUGUST 19, CODEL PAID VISIT TO SITE OF NEW NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BUILDING AND LAID WREATH ON GRAVE OF MRS. PAK CHONG-HUI.

4. LOCAL PRESS GAVE VISIT PROMINENT COVERAGE EVEN WITH LARGER CODEL ADDABBO CONTINGENT PRESENT IN SEOUL AT VIRTUALLY SAME TIME. CONGRESSMAN SIKES WAS QUOTED IN KOREA HERALD DURING CONVERSATION WITH SPEAKER OF
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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AS SAYING "MAJORITY OPINION IN U.S.

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FAVORED CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR KOREA IN SPITE OF SOME
CRITICISM IN CONGRESS (LIKE THAT) RAISED BY
REPRESENTATIVE DONALD FRASER."

5. IN HIS BRIEF ADDRESS AT HANYANG, PRESS REPORTED
CONGRESSMAN SIKES AS SAYING "ABANDONMENT (OF KOREA) IN MY
VIEW, COULD CONCEIVABLY RUPTURE UNITED STATES-JAPAN
ALLIANCE WHICH COULD, IN TURN, END U.S. INFLUENCE IN EAST
ASIA." HE ALSO STRESSED U.S. COMMITMENT TO STAND FIRMLY
BESIDE KOREA.
SNEIDER

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